GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3123
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2003
AGREEMENTS WITH PRIVATE OPERATORS
SHEESH RAM SINGH RAVI

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether 25 new agreements with Private Basic Service Operators to bring competition in various service areas was signed by DOT;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the advantages accrued to the subscribers therefrom;

(c) whether the private operators have failed to provide rural telephony, especially Village Public Telephones (VPTs), and were asked to show tangible results by mid- June, 2002;

(d) if so, the details of tangible results shown by the private operators in providing rural telephones especially VPTs; and

(e) the action the Government propose to take for not fulfilling the commitments made by the private operators?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(SHRIMATI S MAHAJAN)

(a)&(b): Yes, Sir . The details of Private Basic Telephone Service Operators is given in the Annexure. The competition results in better service and not limited reduction in tariff and provision on various supplementary services.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) The details are as follows:

Date to be provided by six private basic service operators	Total No. of VPTs reported to be
31.03.2002	846
30.06.2002	2934
28.02.2003	8545

(e) The government has recovered Liquidated Damage (LD) charges for delay in performance by the six private basic service operators. The Government has asked to fulfill their roll out obligations by 31st March 2003. Further, Government has already taken appropriate steps to resolve problems raised by them.

ANNEXURE
BASIC TELEPHONE SERVICE LICENCES

Sl. No.	Service Area	Name of Licensee	Effective date
1	Andman Nicobar Island	M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd.	20.07.2001
2	Andhra Pradesh	M/s Tata Teleservices Ltd.	30.9.1997
		M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd.	20.07.2001
3	Bihar	M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd.	20.07.2001
4	Delhi	M/s Bharati Telenet Ltd.	29.10.2001
			20.07.2001

		M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd.	31.08.2001
		M/s Tata Teleservices Ltd.	
5	Gujrat	M/s Reliance Telecom Ltd.	30.09.1998 31.08.2001
		M/s Tata Teleservices Ltd.	
6	Haryana	M/s Bharati Telenet Ltd.	08.10.2001 20.07.2001
		M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd.	
7	Himichal Pradesh	M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd.	20.07.2001
8	Karnataka	M/s Bharati Telenet Ltd.	29.10.2001 20.07.2001
		M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd.	31.08.2001
		M/s Tata Teleservices Ltd.	
9	Kerala	M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd.	20.07.2001
10	Madhya Pradesh	M/s Bharati Telenet Ltd.	30.09.1997 20.07.2001
		M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd.	
11	Maharashtra	M/s Hughes Tele.com Ltd.	30.09.1997 20.07.2001
		M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd.	
12	Orissa	M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd.	20.07.2001
13	Punjab	M/s HFCL Infotel Ltd.	30.09.1997
		M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd.	20.07.2001
14	Rajasthan	M/s Shyam Telelink Ltd.	04.03.1998
		Ms Reliance Infocomm Ltd.	20.07.2001
15	Tamil Nadu	M/s Bharati Telenet Ltd.	29.10.2001 26.09.2001
		M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd.	31.08.2001
		M/s Tata Teleservices Ltd.	
16	UttarPradesh (W)	M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd.	20.07.2001
17	Uttar Pradesh (E)	M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd.	20.07.2001
18	West Bengal	M/s Reliance Infocomm Ltd.	20.07.2001